

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of all the claims is noted below.

1. (Original) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric comprising:

a substrate having a top surface and bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface; and

a pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the substrate, and said pattern creating a void for receiving fluid which passes through the substrate.

2. (Currently Amended) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ~~fabrie has~~ substrate is a woven substrate.

3. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 2 wherein the fabric is woven from monofilament or multifilament yarns.

4. (Currently Amended) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~fabrie has~~ the substrate is a polymeric substrate.

5. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fabric comprises low melt fiber which is treated to reinforce and maintain the pattern.

6. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a substrate having a top surface and bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface; and

a pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the substrate, and said pattern creating a void for receiving fluid which passes through the substrate,

wherein the substrate is a polymeric substrate and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 4~~
~~wherein~~ the fabric comprises low melt fiber which is treated to reinforce and maintain the pattern.

7. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 which comprises a fusible web component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain the pattern.

8. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 2 which comprises a fusible web component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain the pattern.

9. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a substrate having a top surface and bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the substrate, and said pattern creating a void for receiving fluid which passes through the substrate; and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 1 which comprises~~

a spray adhesive component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain the pattern.

10. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 2 which comprises a spray adhesive component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain the pattern.

11. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 which includes providing an industrial process fabric which is selected from the following group: forming fabric, press fabric, drying fabric, TAD fabric, pulp forming fabric, engineered fabric, sludge dewatering fabric or DNT fabric.

12. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fabric includes a fiber batt layer as its top surface, bottom surface or both.

13. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 1 wherein the top surface is substantially smooth.

14. (Original) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane;

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric: and

wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together.

15. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 wherein the second pattern is embossed upon the top surface of the second substrate and said first pattern and said second pattern are positioned in an adjacent relationship.

16. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane; and

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric,

wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together; and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 15 which includes~~

a third pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the second substrate.

17. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane; and

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric,

wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together, and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 14~~

wherein the second pattern is embossed on the bottom surface of the second substrate.

18. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 wherein the first and second substrate are joined together by needling, gluing or heat fusing.

19. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 wherein the first and second pattern are identical to each other and are in a matching relationship with each other.

20. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 wherein the first and second pattern are identical to each other and are offset from each other.

21. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 wherein the first and second pattern differ from each other.

22. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which includes providing a fabric having a woven substrate.

23. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which includes providing a fabric having a polymeric substrate.

24. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane; and

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric; and

wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together, The fabric as claimed in claim 14

wherein the fabric comprises low melt fiber which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of said patterns.

25. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 16 wherein the fabric comprises low melt fiber which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of said patterns.

26. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which comprises a fusible web component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of said patterns.

27. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 16 which comprises a fusible web component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of said patterns.

28. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane;

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric: and wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together; and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which comprises~~

a spray adhesive component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of said patterns.

29. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 16 which comprises a spray adhesive component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of said patterns.

30. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which includes a fabric which is nonwoven.

31. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which includes providing an industrial process fabric which is selected from the following group: forming fabric, press fabric, drying fabric, TAD fabric, pulp forming fabric, engineered fabric, sludge dewatering fabric or DNT fabric.

32. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 22 wherein said fabric is woven from monofilament or multifilament yarns.

33. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 which includes a fiber batt layer as its top surface, bottom surface or both.

34. (Original) The fabric as claimed in claim 14 wherein the top surface of the first substrate is substantially smooth.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane; and

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric,

wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together, and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 23~~

wherein the fabric comprises low melt fiber which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of the patterns.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) The fabric as claimed in claim 22 which comprises a fusible web component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of the patterns.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) An industrial process fabric in the form of an endless loop which functions in the manner of a conveyor in making product from which fluid is being extracted whilst being carried on the fabric, comprising:

a first substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane, said product being carried on the top surface;

a first pattern embossed upon the bottom surface of the first substrate, said first pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric;

a second substrate having a top surface and a bottom surface and a nominal thickness along a plane;

a second pattern embossed upon the second substrate, said second pattern creating voids for receiving fluid which passes through the fabric,

wherein said bottom surface of the first substrate and the top surface of the second substrate being in an adjoining relationship and said first and second substrates being joined together; and ~~The fabric as claimed in claim 22 which comprises~~

a spray adhesive component of the fabric which is treated to reinforce and maintain at least one of the patterns.